

music hall songs, glorifying the wreck of the *Lusitania*, and the taunting and torturing of its victims, gives a proper measure to the world of the sentiments of humanity by which it is inspired.

This odious teutonic savagery, responsible for the crimes committed in every country invaded by the German army, has ventured to the extent of its power to carry its cruelties into the majestic realm of the seas.

But the German marine shall be too short-lived, let us hope, to base its traditions upon those monstrous exploits which have promptly dishonoured it in the light of history.

That Empire, without faith and without law, which the allied nations shall bring to reason in good time, refuses to small neutral nations the right of existence and treats them all as parasites. But while the struggle goes on by land, Britain guards the sea and guarantees the freedom of traffic to those same neutrals, who see their commerce and their wealth increase thereby in unexpected measure.

If these neutral beneficiaries do not feel called upon to manifest any great excess of gratitude, they might at least, one would think, have sufficient perspicacity to recognize the source whence they derive so much direct profit and advantage.

Thanks to the watchful British fleet, it has become a mere commonplace to say that there is no longer a German flag visible anywhere on the seas or oceans of the globe. And even on the Baltic, which they thought a German inland ocean, and the last resort where they flattered themselves as secure, the British submarines are at present engaged in the most fruitful of hunting expeditions. To sum up, those silent sentinels, the British squadrons, prohibit to the Germans all the sea routes and cut them off completely from communication with nine-tenths of the world.

This sudden and almost total cessation of her large exterior commerce represents for Germany a stupendous loss. Of that loss we can form some idea if we reflect that in the course of the last peaceful fiscal year, the German exportations had reached the sum of more than twenty-five hundred millions of marks; and her importations had reached the figure of more than forty-eight hundred millions of marks.

The revenues of Germany are thus diminished annually by more than nine thousand million francs. She is thus forced to content herself with the products of her own territory, and to using the stocks which she had accumulated before the war. Each day sees, for her, the increasing impossibility of creating any new sources of wealth or of credit which might enable her to continue the war with any hope of victory.

And Germany has so keenly felt that the action of the British fleet has wounded her in such a vital spot that she has endeavoured to strike back with the same weapon. She imagined that with her